

ABSTRACT

A computer system having central processing unit, a ROM, an NVRAM, and other common computer components. A table of information is stored in the ROM. The information can relate to configuration data for boards installed in the computer or other types of information.

5 Preferably, each entry in the ROM table includes a board identifier and corresponding text describing the board and/or configuration data for the board. An extension table is stored in the NVRAM which provides storage capacity for the same type of information in the ROM-based table. The NVRAM-based extension table preferably also includes storage for board identifiers and corresponding configuration information. When running a setup utility program, the utility

10 preferably first checks the ROM-based board table to determine whether a matching entry is found for each board in the system. If a match is found, the corresponding configuration information is used to configure the system for use of the board. If a match is not found, the utility program then checks the NVRAM extension table for a matching entry. If a match is found, the corresponding configuration information is used. If no match is found in either table, a default setting is used.